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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
CAO, PHUONG THAO

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SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/27/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _06 November 2006_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1 and 3-13_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1 and 3-13_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is in response to Amendment filed on 11/06/2006.

2.   Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 12 and 13 have been amended, and claim 2 has been cancelled.

Currently, claims 1 and 3-13 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-13 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on
> sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   Claims 1 and 3-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Zhou et al.

(WIPO Publication WO 02/27541, Publication date: 4 April 2002).

As to claim 1, Zhou et al. teaches:

"A computer-implemented method for obtaining information contained in multiple knowledge

bases" (see Abstract and [page 2, lines 10-15]), the method comprising:

"receiving a request for information from an application system" (see [page 5, line 10-17]

wherein the initial search query is equivalent to Applicant's "request for information);

"using the request to create a first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein a

query must be created from the initial search term or phase in order for the server 104 to search

the concept networks);

"using the first search query to obtain a first search result that includes information

contained in a first knowledge base" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein concept networks is

equivalent to Applicant's "first knowledge base" and related terms or phases is equivalent to

Applicant's "first search result");

"creating a second search query based on the first search result, the second search query

being different than the first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-27] and [page 12, lines 12-15]

wherein the reformulated search query is equivalent to Applicant's "second search query");

"using the second search query to obtain a second search result that includes information

contained in a second knowledge base" (see [page 12, lines 20-25] wherein database 208 is

equivalent to Applicant's "second knowledge base");

"bundling the first search result and the second search result into a results package" (see

[page 14, lines 1-5] wherein the displayed result to the user includes the related words (the first

search result) and document-related information (the second search result));

"formatting the results package in a format that is appropriate for use by the application

system" (see [page 13, lines 5-13]); and

"providing the formatted results package to the application system" (see [page 14, lines

1-7] and [page 4, lines 15-21] wherein web browser application used by a user is equivalent to

Applicant's "application system").

As to claim 3, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein the method further comprises processing the first and second search results"

(see [page 12, lines 12-15] and [page 13, lines 5-20] wherein related terms is equivalent to

Applicant's "first search result", and information relating relevant documents is equivalent to

Applicant's "second search result").

As to claim 4, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 3

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein processing the first and second search results includes" (see [page 12, lines 12-

15] and [page 13, lines 5-20]):

"using the first search result to obtain additional information from the first knowledge

base" (see [page 14, lines 2-12] wherein related terms is equivalent to Applicant's "first search

result"); and

"sending additional information obtained from the first knowledge base back to the

application system" (see [page 14, lines 2-15]).

As to claim 5, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 3 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein processing the first and second search results includes filtering the first and second search results according to a set of predefined filtering rules" (see [page 12, lines 7-20] and [page 13, lines 5-27]).

As to claim 6, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 3 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein processing the first and second search results includes classifying the first and second search results according to a set of predefined classification rules" (see [page 13, lines 9-13] and [page 14, lines 15-20]).

As to claim 7, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1 and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein creating the second search query based on the first search result includes using the first search result along with a set of predefined search rules to automatically create the second search query" (see [page 11, lines 23-27] and [page 12, lines 1-20] wherein related terms

is equivalent to Applicant's "first search result" and reformulated search query is equivalent to

Applicant's "second search query").

As to claim 8, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein creating the second search query based on the first search result includes" (see

[page 12, lines 12-20] wherein the reformulated search query is equivalent to Applicant's

"second search query" and related terms is equivalent to Applicant's "first search result"):

"extracting information form the first search result" (see [page 12, lines 12-20] wherein

related terms is equivalent to Applicant's "first search result"); and

"including the extracted information within the second search query" (see [page 12, lines

12-20] for the disclosure of only the related terms that have a semantic relationship of "product

of" may be incorporated into the reformulated search query which indicates the "extracting…"

and "including…" as illustrated in Applicant's claim language).

As to claim 9, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"using the first search query to obtain a first search result includes obtaining the first

search result directly from the first knowledge base" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] for searching

concept networks wherein concept networks is equivalent to Applicant's "first knowledge

base"); and

"using the second search query to obtain a second search result includes obtaining the

second search result directly from the second knowledge base" (see [page 12, lines 20-25] for

searching database 208 wherein database 208 is equivalent to Applicant's "second knowledge

base").

As to claim 10, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"using the first search query to obtain a first search result includes obtaining the first

search request from a first search engine" (see [page 2, lines 1-13]); and

"using the second search query to obtain the second search result from a second search

engine" (see [page 2, lines 1-14]).

As to claim 11, this claim is rejected based on arguments given above to rejected claim 1

and is similarly rejected including the following:

Zhou et al. teaches:

"wherein the application system includes a call-center application" (see [page 5, lines 10-

17] wherein the application that uses a web page to allow clients to request a search is equivalent

to a call-center application).

As to claim 12, <u>Zhou et al.</u> teaches:

"A computer system for obtaining information contained in multiple knowledge bases" (see Abstract and [page 2, lines 10-15]), the computer system being programmed to:

"receiving a request for information from an application system" (see [page 5, line 10-17] wherein the initial search query is equivalent to <u>Applicant</u>'s "request for information);

"using the request to create a first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein a query must be created from the initial search term or phase in order for the server 104 to search the concept networks);

"using the first search query to obtain a first search result that includes information contained in a first knowledge base" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein concept networks is equivalent to <u>Applicant</u>'s "first knowledge base" and related terms or phases is equivalent to <u>Applicant</u>'s "first search result");

"creating a second search query based on the first search result, the second search query being different than the first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-27] and [page 12, lines 12-15] wherein the reformulated search query is equivalent to <u>Applicant</u>'s "second search query");

"using the second search query to obtain a second search result that includes information contained in a second knowledge base" (see [page 12, lines 20-25] wherein database 208 is equivalent to <u>Applicant</u>'s "second knowledge base");

"bundling the first search result and the second search result into a results package" (see [page 14, lines 1-5] wherein the displayed result to the user includes the related words (the first search result) and document-related information (the second search result));

"formatting the results package in a format that is appropriate for use by the application

system" (see [page 13, lines 5-13]); and

"providing the formatted results package to the application system" (see [page 14, lines

1-7] and [page 4, lines 15-21] wherein web browser application used by a user is equivalent to

Applicant's "application system").

As to claim 13, Zhou et al. teaches:

"A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions contained therein for

performing a method" (see Abstract and [page 2, lines 10-15]), the method comprising:

"receiving a request for information from an application system" (see [page 5, line 10-17]

wherein the initial search query is equivalent to Applicant's "request for information);

"using the request to create a first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein a

query must be created from the initial search term or phase in order for the server 104 to search

the concept networks);

"using the first search query to obtain a first search result that includes information

contained in a first knowledge base" (see [page 10, lines 20-21] wherein concept networks is

equivalent to Applicant's "first knowledge base" and related terms or phases is equivalent to

Applicant's "first search result");

"creating a second search query based on the first search result, the second search query

being different than the first search query" (see [page 10, lines 20-27] and [page 12, lines 12-15]

wherein the reformulated search query is equivalent to Applicant's "second search query");

"using the second search query to obtain a second search result that includes information contained in a second knowledge base" (see [page 12, lines 20-25] wherein database 208 is equivalent to Applicant's "second knowledge base");

"bundling the first search result and the second search result into a results package" (see [page 14, lines 1-5] wherein the displayed result to the user includes the related words (the first search result) and document-related information (the second search result));

"formatting the results package in a format that is appropriate for use by the application system" (see [page 13, lines 5-13]); and

"providing the formatted results package to the application system" (see [page 14, lines 1-7] and [page 4, lines 15-21] wherein web browser application used by a user is equivalent to Applicant's "application system").

Conclusion

6.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Phuong-Thao Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2735.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon - Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the

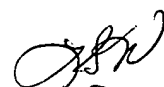organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

PTC

December 19, 2006

CHARLES RONES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

20 December 2006